

Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 23, 2024 – 6:00 PM
Public Service Administrative Building – Council Chambers 1st Floor
201 W. Main Street – Kingstree, South Carolina 29556

Members Present: Marva B. Cannon, Dr. Jerry L. Dicks, Rev. Alfred Darby, Dr. Janice Gamble, Mike Floyd, Dr. Kenneth Burgess, Gary McKenzie, and Carletta Scott Isreal

Member Absent: Mack Burgess

Others Present: Dr. Kelvin Wymbs, Joseph McCollough, Ernest Young, Dr. Myron Davis, Thelvane'sa A. Greene, Dr. Latetia Staggers, Genia Smith, Jennifer Holliday, Angela Fred, Ernestine Young, Stacey Mooneyham, Amanda Dorns, Berlinda Mack, Tara Richardson, Kimily C Brown, Neilson Hilton, Vernie Williams, Dr. Myron Davis, Tyrone Frasier, and James Price.

Meeting Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Marva B. Cannon at 6:00 pm. The secretary confirmed the Establishment of Quorum and the chair confirmed the Notification of Media.

Welcome

The chair welcomed all present to the meeting.

Moment of Silence

Dr. Dicks asked all people to observe a Moment of Silence.

Pledge of Allegiance

All persons were asked to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda for tonight's meeting by Dr. Gamble, seconded by Dr. Burgess. Rev. Darby motion for unreadiness of board input. The board chair stated the board policy to place items on the agenda six to ten days prior to the meeting in writing. The motion was carried, 6-1.

Action Items

A motion was made to approve the Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees Minutes from Monday, August 26, 2024, and the Williamsburg County School District Board workshop minutes from September 10, 2024, by Dr. Gamble and seconded by Rev. Dicks. Rev. Darby motion for unreadiness of a motion he made on August 26, 2024, he made a motion so moved and another motion was made. He asked for clarification on parliamentary procedures. The motion was carried, 6-1.

Thought of Today

Rev. Darby shared the Thought for Today.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Legislative Update

M. Cannon, provided the Legislative update on behalf of M. Burgess. M. Cannon shared that the SC Supreme Court voted against the use of public funds for Private School Vouchers.

Policy JIC-J- Prohibition of Personal Electronic Devices During the School Day (Second Reading)

M. Cannon read board policy JIC-J that addressed personal electronic devices during the school day. This was the second reading of the policy to be implemented on December 1, 2025.

Flex Academy, Dr. Tara Richardson

Dr. Richardson, Principal, stated that the FLEX Academy focused on high school dropouts not on grade level to graduate on time. She shared a written report on the graduation rate, number of students served, and program outcomes for scholars.

HOPE Academy, Kimily Brown

K. Brown, principal, and a member of the Williamsburg County School District Intervention Team that focused on multi-levels of support. HOPE Academy is currently serving 16 students. She also implemented Academic Learning Lab (A.L.L.) designed for independent study for scholars that are intrinsically motivated to participate in experience that will propel academic excellence.

P.O.W.E.R.U.P. Academy, James Price

J. Price, POWERUP Academy, is an intervention program tailored to students from kindergarten to fifth. The program is serving five scholars thus far and 20 schools last school term. In partnership with Broad Steps, DSS, Waccamaw, Mr. Price shared that, students have a 15-day check in with the understanding to return students to their school environments by day 45.

Hemingway Career & Tech. Education, Torrance Wilson

T. Wilson, Director of Career and Technical Education, provided information about the program and services provided to scholars. He shared partnerships with Williamsburg Technical College for Dual Enrollment Program that allows scholars to earn certification. The center received 100 free Chromebook through a collaboration with a local partner. He shared additional programs added, to include, STEM, cybersecurity, and CTE Career Cluster.

Dr. Wymbs, thanked the Alternative Program staff for their hard work with our scholars and the services provided that has changed students.

Academic Update, Genia Smith

G. Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership Support introduced her staff to present updates for students. The board received reports about i-Ready, professional development, early literacy, K-12 Math and Science results, Special Services Department planning for March 2025, review, MTSS Fall Festival is planned for Saturday, November 9, 2024, update on truancy and the process to locate scholars, and number of students enrolled in Dual Enrollment and Early College Program.

Fine Arts Update, Jennifer Holliday

J. Holliday, Director of Fine Arts, Gifted & Talented, and Grants, shared the Fine Arts Department is at full capacity for staff, Visual Arts, Band, recipient of a \$25,000 grant, upcoming events for scholars, release of

District Visual Art Newsletter, partner with SC Governor’s School for the Arts, All County Music Festival and Superintendent’s Art Gallery, and highlight teachers and students’ accomplishments.

Federal Programs Update, Dr. Ernestine Young

Dr. Young, Deputy Superintendent of Federal Programs & Extended Learning, provided an overview of the Federal Program Demographics, state and federal funds supports, purpose of Title I Funds, How Title I Funds Are Spent, purpose of Title II Funds Support, purpose of Title III English Learners (ELs), purpose of Title IV Funds, purpose of Title V Funds Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP), McKinney-Vento (Homeless), Foster Care (93 foster students which is the third highest in SC), Broad Step Residential Facility, and agenda items for the Federal Program.

M. Cannon, chair, shared that an invitation from South Carolina Schol Board Association was extended to Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees to present at the next school board convention.

Adjournment

I, Alfred L. Darby make a motion that the Williamsburg County School District Board meeting adjourned, seconded by Dr. Gamble. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Board Secretary: _____
Carletta Scott Isreal, Board Secretary

Date: _____

Board Chair: _____
Marva B. Cannon, Board Chair

Date: _____